

University of Evansville
Symphony Orchestra

FINALE CLASSICS CONCERT

THE VICTORY THEATRE
APRIL 20, 1999

Lonnie Klein, Conductor
Awadagin Pratt, Piano



PATRICIA H. SNYDER ■

1998-1999

Concert Season

UNIVERSITY
OF
EVANSVILLE

CONCERT AND LECTURE SERIES

PROGRAM

J.S. Bach/Pratt Passacaglia and Fugue, BWV 582

Johannes Brahms Variations and Fugue on a Theme
by Handel, Op. 24

Intermission

Ludwig van Beethoven Overture to Coriolanus, Op. 62

Ludwig van Beethoven Piano Concerto No. 3 in C Minor, Op. 37

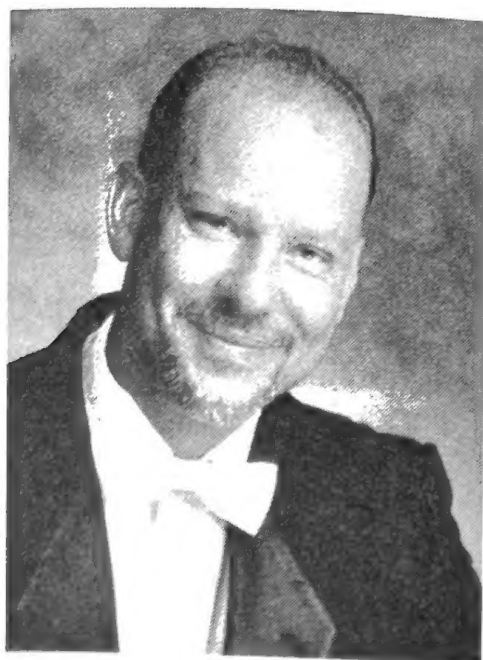
Allegro con brio

Largo

Rondo-Vivace



UE Symphony Orchestra is a member of the
American Symphony Orchestra League.



LONNIE KLEIN
Conductor

Farewell!

It is very difficult to express the emotion I feel as I conduct my last concert as the Music Director/Conductor of the UE Symphony Orchestra. My time here has been filled with so much enjoyable activity – tours, guest artists, student soloists, faculty artists and, of course, the enthusiasm and energy of working with student musicians. I am so proud to have been the director of this orchestra for the past 10 years.

Although Ellen and I are excited to be moving to the Southwest where I will assume my new post as the Music Director/Conductor of the Las Cruces Symphony Orchestra, we are saddened to be leaving so many friends, colleagues and students. We will always cherish the time spent here in Evansville.

The growth of this program could not have happened without the tremendous encouragement and work by the music department faculty, staff, administration and students. I am truly grateful and sincerely wish the very best for the members of the UE Orchestra as they continue to share their joy of music-making with you.

Sincerely,



AWADAGIN PRATT

Piano

Among the next generation of concert artists, pianist Awadagin Pratt is increasingly acclaimed as one of tomorrow's superstars. His musical insight and intensely involving performances have received tremendous audience response and media attention throughout the United States during the past several seasons.

Born in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, Pratt began studying piano at the age of six. Three years later, having moved to Normal, Illinois, he also began studying violin. At the age of 16, he entered the University of Illinois, where he studied piano, violin and conducting. He subsequently enrolled at Baltimore's Peabody Conservatory of Music, where he became the first student in the school's history to receive diplomas in three performance areas.

In 1992, Pratt won the Naumburg International Piano Competition, and two years later was awarded a 1994 Avery Fisher Career Grant. He has played numerous recitals throughout the U.S., including performances in New York at Lincoln Center; Washington, D.C., at the Kennedy Center; Los Angeles at the Dorothy Chandler Pavilion; and Chicago at Orchestra Hall. He has appeared with the New York Philharmonic, the Minnesota Orchestra, the Pittsburgh, St. Louis, Atlanta, National, Detroit, Indianapolis, Seattle, Milwaukee, Cincinnati and New Jersey Symphonies and the New York Chamber Symphony. He has also performed at major summer festivals including Ravinia, Blossom, Wolftrap, Caramoor, Aspen and the Hollywood Bowl.

Internationally, Pratt made his debut appearances in Japan in fall 1996; the tour included recitals in Osaka and Tokyo's Suntory Hall and a performance with the Tokyo Philharmonic. He has been a participant in the 1994 and 1996 Kammermusikpodium Festival in Braunschweig, Germany, and has played recitals at the Tonhalle in Zurich and in Capetown, South Africa.

Highlights of Awadagin Pratt's 1997-98 season included his Carnegie Hall debut with the Orchestra of St. Luke's; re-engagements with the St. Louis, Atlanta, Seattle and Indianapolis symphonies; his debut in Israel with the Haifa Symphony; recital appearances at Jordan Hall in Boston, the Kennedy Center and the new New Jersey Performing Arts Center in Newark; and a return visit to Japan which included recitals in Tokyo, Osaka, Sapporo and Nagoya.

During the 1998-99 season he gives a recital at the Ravinia Festival, will make his debut in South America with concerts in Brazil, returns to Japan for concerts at Tokyo's Mostly Mozart Festival with Gerard Schwarz conducting and will perform with the orchestras of Baltimore, Detroit, Colorado, Grand Rapids, and Syracuse, among others, as well as play numerous recitals throughout the U.S.

Awadagin Pratt has been the subject of numerous articles in the national press, including *Newsweek*, *People*, *U.S.A. Weekend*, *New York Newsday*, *Emerge* and *Mirabella*. He was named one of the 50 Leaders of Tomorrow in *Ebony's* special 50th Anniversary issue and has been featured on National Public Radio's *Performance Today* and *Weekend Edition*. He has performed on the *Today Show*, *Good Morning America* and *Sesame Street*, appeared in a segment of *CBS Sunday Morning* and was one of the featured soloists on PBS's *Live from the Kennedy Center - A Salute to Slava*. He has also performed at the White House at the invitation of President and Mrs. Bill Clinton.

In September 1993, Pratt signed an exclusive recording contract with Angel/EMI. His debut album released in April 1994, *A Long Way From Normal*, features works by Brahms, Bach/Busoni, Franck and Liszt. His second recital album, an all-Beethoven Sonata disc, and a third album, recorded live in South Africa, were released in 1996 and 1997.

Pratt resides in Albuquerque, and in his spare time is an active tennis player and devoted chess enthusiast. Awadagin Pratt is a Kawai Artist.

UNIVERSITY OF EVANSVILLE SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

VIOLIN I

Shana Essma, Concertmaster+
Sarah Atkinson+
Christina Helm
Erin Brady
Brian Maney
Danielle MacKay
Rachel Schlachter
Maria Mastropaola*

VIOLIN II

Chris Carbone, Principal
Anne Shiraki
Erika Proegler
Sharon Hailey
Amber French
Aurora O'Connor
Juliette Hawa
Anna Christell
Amanda Heinrich
Laura Christell
Aimee Miner

VIOLA

Laura Racine, Principal
Amy Barrick
David Cooksey
Gardiner McDaniel•

CELLO

Maria Scherer, Principal+
Jill Cavanaugh
Apryl Wilson
Kiesha Cole
Kristine Miller
Kirstin Olson
Amanda Kaylor
Sarah Bielish•

BASS

Justin Bennett, Principal
Eric Sabo*

FLUTE

Brooke Jerrell, Principal
Rachel Long
Kim Peyton

OBOE

Sharin Palladino, Principal
Sara Brown

CLARINET

Jenny Stewart, Principal
Brad Miller
Sarah Stapleton

BASSOON

Lisa McKelvey, Principal
Salena Trapp

HORN

Jove Oliver, Principal
Alicia Deckard
Kathleen Dundon
Katherine Weikert

TRUMPET

Tad Dickel, Principal
Theresa Krueger
Amber Wright

TROMBONE

Jessica Major, Principal
Christina Iantria

TUBA

Chris Ghormley

PERCUSSION

Keith Farny
Ryan Delling
Elizabeth Houston

LIBRARY

Anne Simon

* Guest

+ EPO Fellowship

• UE Faculty

THE UE ORCHESTRA EXPERIENCE

Talented music students, artist faculty, challenging repertoire and guest artists - these are some of the components of the orchestral program at the University of Evansville. The Symphony Orchestra is a select ensemble which performs a wide variety of literature from the standard orchestral repertoire. This 65-member ensemble performs numerous concerts each year as well as regional concerts and an annual tour. Additionally, the orchestra has performed with world class guest artists such as William Warfield in a performance of *Porgy and Bess*; David Aiken in a production of Menotti's *Amahl and the Night Visitors*; and pianists Ralph Votapek and Abbey Simon in the 1997-98 academic year. Earlier this year, the orchestra shared the stage with child prodigy Yura Lee, violinist.

THE STRING ENSEMBLE

The String Ensemble is a select ensemble of approximately 20 members. The focus of this group is the performance of string literature, ranging from the baroque to the 20th century. The String Ensemble performs at student workshops and faculty recitals, churches and schools. The String Ensemble performed Debussys *La Sacre* with harpist Yolanda Kondonassis in April 1998.

FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

String fellowships are available to outstanding string players through the prestigious Evansville Philharmonic/University of Evansville String Fellowship program. The fellowship is a contract position which allows students to perform professionally with the Evansville Philharmonic Symphony Orchestra. Students are paid a stipend in addition to their University music scholarship.

NOTES OF INTEREST

- The Symphony Orchestra performed concerts this year in Louisville, Lexington and Nashville.
- Three members of the orchestra are fellowship students and have contract positions with the Evansville Philharmonic Orchestra.
- The orchestra commissioned a new composition from composer Paul Martin Zonn. That work opened the 1998-99 concert season at the Victory Theatre.
- The orchestra engaged guest artists Michael Belnap, Angela Brown, Yura Lee and Awadagin Pratt for the 1998-99 concert season.
- The Madisonville Fine Arts Center engaged the orchestra for the 1998-99 season to perform on its "Center Stage" subscription series.
- Four UE artist-faculty have performed as soloists with the orchestra in 1998-99.
- The Symphony Orchestra and String Ensemble have performed more than eight concerts in the 1998-99 academic year.